

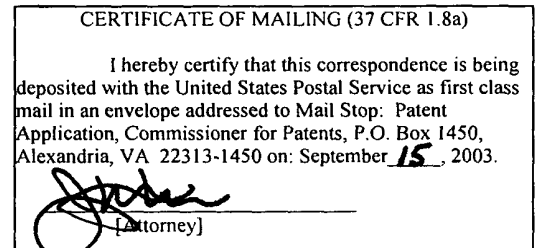
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : TBA  
Applicant : BERKEY GEORGE E et al  
Filed :  
Title : METHOD FOR TREATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM  
WITH DEUTERIUM

TC/A.U. : TBD  
Examiner : TBD

Docket No. : SP02-212

Mail Stop: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, filed concurrently herewith, as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.